Name	Age (years)	Owned by
I. *Mainland-Andaman & Nicobar Island (Passenger-cum-cargo vessels)*		
(i) M.V. Andamans	31	A & N Administration
(ii) T.S.S. Nancowry	40	SCI
(iii) M.V. Harshavardhana . . .	14	SCI
(iv) M.V. Akbar	17	A & N Administration
(v) M.V. NAJD II	26	Chartered vessel.
Cargo Vessels		
(vi) M.V. Diglipur	11	SCI
II. *Mainland-Lakshad eep (Passenger-cum-cargo vessels)*		
(i) M.V. Amindivi . . .	18	SCI
(ii) M.V. Bharat Seema . . .	15	Lakshadweep Administration
(iii) M.V. Dweep Setu	4	Lakshadweep Administration

(c) Indian Shipyards are capable of carrying out repairs to the ships, but they have limitations for constructing new large size passenger ships.

(d) For the mainland-Andaman service it has been decided to purchase three new passenger vessels for the Andaman & Nicobar Administration. For the mainland-Lakshadweep service, one vessel has been acquired by Lakshadweep Administration.

Television Sets Installed in Major Railways Routes

2618. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that television sets are proposed to be installed in Railways on major routes;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Vitalisation of Informal Education Scheme

2619. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the new Education Policy the dropouts fail the education scheme;

(b) whether it is estimated that the population in the age group of six to fourteen will be 18 crores in 1995; and

(c) if so, what strategy Government are adopting for vitalising informal education scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The National Policy on Education, 1986 envisages measures to address the problem of drop-outs.

(b) The population in the age group 6—14 is expected to reach 16.03 crores by 1995.

(c) Under the New Education the Programme of Non-formal Education was reorganised and expanded in 1987. To provide education of a quality comparable to that of formal schools to school drop-outs, working children, girls who cannot attend whole-day schools and children from habitations without schools, the programme emphasises organisational flexibility, relevance of curriculum, diversity in learning activities to relate them to the learner's needs, and decentralisation of management. The selection of local, committed persons, preferably women as instructors; intensive training; close supervision by part-time trained local youth; organisation of centres into projects in compact and contiguous areas easily amenable to supervision and monitoring; strengthening of district and state levels; involvement of voluntary agencies and scope for continuing education are some of the other features of the non-formal education programme.

Dilapidated condition of House of Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee etc.

2620. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: *Will the Minister of* HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ancestral houses of Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Swami Vivekanand and Raja Ram Mohan Roy in West Bengal are in dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to acquire and to preserve these houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Government of West Bengal which is primarily concerned with the matter. It will be laid on the Table of the House, when received.

2621. *[Transferred to the 23rd August,* 1988].

Development of Indigenous System of Medicine

2622. PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to develop the Indigenous System of Medicine in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have evoked any special machinery to distribute the indigeous drugs to the masses in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The National Health Policy lays emphasis on the development of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy ensuring that each system develops fully and according to its genius.

The Government have taken various steps to develop these systems by way of improving the quality of education, laying of Pharmacopoeial standards of drugs and their quality control; Research activities through various Research Councils, etc. It is the endeavour to involve Practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in Primary Health Care and Family Welfare Programmes. The State Governments have been requested to take specific measures in this regard. The development of Medicinal Plants, particularly those commonly used in Indian drugs, is another area on which emphasis is being laid.

(c) Health being a State subject, each State Government has developed its own System for providing medical care (including drugs or indigenous